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ABSTRACT

This casebook of materials about William Shakespeare's "Julius Caesar" will enrich students' understanding of the historical context of the play and encourage interpretations of its cultural meaning. Shakespeare's "Julius Caesar" reflects perennial cultural concerns about order and freedom, particularly as they clash in the figures of Caesar and Brutus. This casebook features a wide variety of materials, from a modernized text of Plutarch's lives of Caesar and Brutus set on facing pages for easy comparison, to historical and contemporary parodies, to a "rap" version of the play. Chapters in the casebook are: Introduction; Interpreting "Julius Caesar"; Caesar in the Elizabethan Theater; Elizabethan Legacies; "Julius Caesar" and the Lincoln Assassination; Teaching "Julius Caesar"; and "Julius Caesar" and Popular Culture. Study questions, project ideas, and bibliographies provide additional sources for examining the cultural and historical context of the play. (NKA)

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